



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
6900 GEORGIA AVE NW
WASHINGTON DC 20307-5001



November 2, 2007

Kevin J. Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Alfred Mann Foundation Petition for Rulemaking , RM-11404

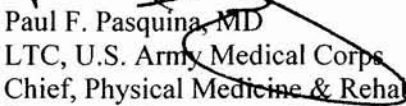
Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Alfred Mann Foundation's ("AMF") request for a rulemaking to facilitate deployment of new wideband medical micropower network service ("MMNS") devices that will dramatically improve the lives of patients suffering from severe disabilities such as paralysis, limb loss, brain injury and other neuromuscular disorders. As a specialist in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, responsible for caring for many severely injured service members, I have first-hand knowledge of the severe impact that these types of injuries have upon the physical and emotional well-being of patients and their families. I also am well aware of the limitations of the available medical treatment options and of the currently unfulfilled need for wireless, implantable miniature devices that can rehabilitate paralyzed limbs and organs.

Devices that provide functional electric stimulation and sensing ("FESS") offer great hope in restoring sensation, mobility, and other functions to paralyzed limbs and organs. For various reasons, however, commercially available FESS devices are limited in their effectiveness and are unappealing to many patients. Existing implantable FESS devices typically require highly invasive surgery and increase the risk of infection. Other FESS devices that can be placed on the skin (rather than implanted) are not as effective because the electrodes cannot be placed directly on the neural sites and therefore require higher stimulus intensities for the desired effect, which can be too painful for some patients to tolerate.

In response to the Commission's notice of inquiry in ET Docket No. 06-135, I previously filed comments supporting AMF's request for a rulemaking and reiterate that support with this letter. I firmly believe that the MMNS equipment that AMF is developing represents a quantum leap in FESS technology and in the medical treatment and care of people living with severe disabilities. In view of the significant health benefits, I believe that the Commission should seriously consider adopting rules facilitating the development and deployment of new and innovative MMNS equipment. Moreover, because of the length of time required to complete the regulatory process, it is critical that the Commission commence the necessary rulemaking proceeding as soon as possible. The sooner the Commission can initiate the process the sooner patients can begin to realize the anticipated extraordinary benefits of this groundbreaking technology.

Sincerely,


Paul F. Pasquina, MD
LTC, U.S. Army Medical Corps
Chief, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Integrated Department of
Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation
National Naval Medical Center
Walter Reed Army Medical Center

cc: Marlene H. Dortch,
FCC Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 2, 2007, a copy of the foregoing Letter was served by electronic mail upon the following:

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Counsel to the Alfred Mann Foundation

/s/ Paul F. Pasquina, M.D. _____
Paul F. Pasquina